

# WHERE KING VICE REIGNS.

"Old Bob" Spriggs's Notorious Grand Street Dive.

A Post-Report Which Flourishes Under the Noes of the Police.

The oldest house in town. Recorder Smith. No. 13 Grand street is a three-story and basement brick house, which to the uninitiated looks as though it might be occupied by extremely respectable people.

So, to one in the neighborhood, though, and he will tell you that respectable people do not keep the shutters on their windows tightly closed all day, as those on No. 12 are the year round, and then if he wishes to convince you he will call your attention to the mysterious-looking saloon in the basement.

If he makes the proposition go—that is



NO. 13 GRAND STREET.

If you are "doing the town"—and if you go, go prepared. If you display any money there, and you are a stranger alone, beware! They only come to have nothing to do with the young women who will try and induce you to go upstairs and hear some good music.

Express no surprise at the number of white women and preponderance of blacks, and be careful not to speak of these women unless they speak to you first. The blacks are very salacious and the white women like to lash them into fury sometimes.

Observing all these conditions and directions, you may get out without spending or being robbed of all your money.

Robert H., or "Old Bob" Spriggs, as he is always called, is the proprietor of this den, and he opened it twenty-five years ago.

He is a copper-skinned negro. His flesh looks more like that of an American Indian than an African, and in appearance, too, he resembles the red man.

He is tall, straight and massive of sinews, bone and muscles. He has long black hair, piercing, cruel-looking black eyes, and a black mustache.

The tales of cruelty told about him, are almost beyond belief. His son, young Bob Spriggs, was recently convicted of stabbing a colored, hard-drinking named Charles Mayo, and when sentenced to the penitentiary for three years in Sing Sing, Recorder Smyth said this to say about the deed.

"The place in which your offense was committed, Spriggs," said the Recorder, "is a notoriously bad place; indeed, it has for years had the reputation of being the vilest house in town."

"I do not know who the Captain of that precinct is, but I do know that there is no good reason why he should be permitted such a vile house to flourish."

"The place your father owns here is kept by a woman named Jennie Allen, a white woman, but he is the real owner, and you were manager of the saloon."

"Above it are rooms which are rented for immoral purposes. Such a trap should not be permitted to exist for a second in any quarter of the city," he concluded.

Old Spriggs has always pulled "a good stroke" with the police. Deceased Police Captain McDonald was his good friend, and when "Lightning" Chatter "ruled the Eighth and Boy Spriggs used to boast that he could have any policeman who bothered him transferred."

Spriggs is reported to be worth more than \$100,000, which he has made in trafficking in white women for the amusement of his colored patrons.

The presence of white men has never been encouraged in his black and tan dive.

Young Spriggs has been fortunate in that no fatal affairs have ever occurred in his house. His son Bob carved young Mayo very seriously, but did not kill him.

During the day there is no appearance of harmless idleness about the place, but after the shades of night have been pulled down, it gradually assumes an appearance of lively activity.

Young blacks in gorgeous raiment and flash jewelry glide down the short flight of steps leading to the saloon and away into the foul-smelling, low-ceilinged barroom.

# OUTRAGE ON WORKINGMEN.

A Thousand Laborers Forced to Wait a Week in Line for Pay Due.

Police Called to Protect an Incompetent Subway Paymaster.

A thousand laborers thronged Forty-second street, between Second and Third avenues, to-day, clamoring for the money they earned last week and the week before on the Third Avenue subway job.

There were 1,600 of them Monday morning, and for four days they have filled the street. Only 500 of them have received their pay as yet, though Paymaster Michael Lynch has all the time and plenty of money, plenty of assistance and all of the accounts of Hugh J. Reilly, the sub-contractor, who is his uncle.

The show was completed last Saturday, and the men were told to come to the office of H. J. Reilly, 220 East Forty-second street, Monday morning and get their two weeks' pay.

They have been there every day since from 8 in the morning till 5 in the afternoon, and 1,000 of them are still unpaid.

No, not every day. There was Christmas. Lynch didn't pay on Christmas, and in consequence 1,200 families of these poor fellows were without Christmas dinners, and their children found empty stockings on the morning of the great holiday.

The men were getting desperate this morning, and Lynch, who is a mere youth of seventeen years, sorely needed his escort of six policemen as he approached his office at home. There is a man named John Smith, and threats of violence were heard.

John Smith, who walked down from his house near One Hundred and Tenth street, said tentatively: "We have not had a penny in the house the whole week. We had no Christmas cheer, and my little child is sick at home. There is \$12.75 coming to my husband, and he has lost four days from other work this week trying to get it."

Another gray-haired old lady said: "My son, John Drew, has three and a half days' pay coming to him. He supplies the only support for me and my children, and he has been here three days waiting for his money. Yesterday in the heavy rain he caught an awful cold, and is very ill. He has no other means of support. It is a terrible shame."

"We don't earn too much," said one man. "We earn it as fast as we can, and we have to live on it. We have been here since the first of the year, and we haven't seen our money yet. Another man walks from the Hudson and Eighty-sixth street every day this week, and I haven't seen my money yet."

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# CHINA and GLASSWARE

Suitable for New Year's Receptions, at the very lowest prices for strictly first-class and desirable goods.

Bloomingdale Bros., Third Ave., Corner 30th St.

Monificent Unknown Donor to the Presbyterian Hospital Building Fund.

President Kennedy Suspected of the Monificent Deed of Charity.

Smiles are plentiful to-day on the faces of the Trustees of the Presbyterian Hospital. Their brows have been overcast since the recent fire in that institution, but an announcement was made at yesterday's meeting which cheered them all and is of great importance to the public.

President John S. Kennedy announced to the gentlemen assembled at the house of Heber R. Bishop, 881 Fifth avenue, that a wealthy resident of this city, who refused to allow his name to be made public, proposed to donate to the hospital \$200,000 for the erection of a new fireproof building, provided that an equal sum was raised among other friends of the institution.

The conditions of this munificent gift were gladly and unanimously agreed to by the trustees, and arrangements were at once made for securing the second half of the half million necessary for the construction of the new hospital.

An event of world-wide importance was the fact that President Kennedy was unable to attend the meeting, and the trustees were glad to have him represented by a successor of gales.

The City of Kingston left New York for Puget Sound Nov. 18, in command of Capt. Melville Nichols and with the following crew: W. H. Anderson, Frank Freer, N. P. Van Batten, James Martin, C. H. Walcott, Harry B. Damm, W. L. Clark, J. E. F. Riley, W. H. Smith, Catherine M. Johnson, John Hardy and John McKean, all of whom sailed from New York; Charles Brown, John Nelson, James Christensen, Henry Smith, all of Norway; M. Schaefer, Joseph Miller, both of Germany; John Edwards, of Philadelphia; A. N. Stevens, of New York; J. H. G. O'Brien, of Pennsylvania; Thomas Macklin and James Macklin, of Ireland; Charles Peterson, of New York; S. C. Coffin and M. C. Hogan, of Maine.

She was loaded with 500 tons of coal for Port Townsend, Puget Sound, by the Puget Sound Navigation Company, which is said to be her owner.

Her long absence without news of her, and the terrific storms at sea led many to fear that she was lost, with all her crew. These fears were strengthened by frequent reports from captains of incoming vessels, who had seen wreckage apparently belonging to the City of Kingston.

Dec. 3, Capt. Kolsrud, of the Norwegian bark Christiana Server, reported seeing a raft of white boards carrying the bodies of two men in latitude 36 deg. 57 min., longitude 78 deg. 33 min. Soon after he saw portions of a steamer's deckhouse, woodwork and spars, and still later a woman's body with a life-preserver about her.

Dec. 18 the British steamer Ishtar, at Boston, reported having seen two days before part of a steamer's deckhouse, painted white as was the Kingston's.

The steamer State of Texas reported the same tidings.

It is difficult to indicate that the lost steamer was the City of Kingston, but that she has been reported safe at the Puget Sound, further speculation is at an end, and so far as news is concerned.

Meanwhile there is more mystery regarding the wreckage which has been reported by various captains at this and other ports.

Albert Netter in Brazil.

A "World" Correspondent Recognizes the Ex-Wall Street Broker.

Wall street was considerably surprised this morning to learn that Albert Netter, whose career in the street was marked with several disastrous transactions, who was known to possess information in the live case, and who finally fled the city just as a warrant was issued for his arrest, has been located in Rio Janeiro by a "World" correspondent.

Over \$15,000 was received yesterday, which makes the grand total something as follows:

W. H. Webb, \$1,000; P. Matthews, \$25; Arthur G. Gardner, \$2,000; Bradley & Co., \$1,000; J. H. Martin, \$1,000; J. H. H. Bolls, \$500; Ernest Goldschmidt, \$100; John T. Brennan, \$100; Chris H. Unruh, \$100; John H. McDonald, \$100; J. H. W. Shubal, \$100; Fred N. Matt, \$100; Lauritz Lange, \$1.

DIED.

ERVING, At 2123 East 42nd street, Trenton, on 25th inst., MARY ELIZABETH, wife of Edward Erving.

Funeral services at St. Joseph's Church, Washington street, at 12:45 o'clock, on Saturday, Dec. 28, at 10:30 A. M. Relatives and friends invited. Interment at Green-Wood.

# IF THIS SHOULD STRIKE YOUR EYE

25 PER CENT.

Cash Discount on our Entire Stock of Men's Dogskin Gloves, lined, with or without Fur tops. Also on all our Ooze and Leather Leggings.

We are also showing very extensive assortments of

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Fine Ready-Made Clothing CHEAPER

Than any other establishment in the land? We want a crowd to-morrow. And here goes a few of our leaders:

Men's Heavy Overcoats, \$2.00 each. Men's Chinilla Overcoats, \$4.00 each. Men's Kersays, \$8.00, \$10.00 and \$12.00. All Silk and Satin-Lined Boys' Overcoats, All Wool, \$1 each. Boys' Overcoats, All Wool, \$1.00 each. Men's Fine Derby Hats, 99c. Silk Scarfs, 15c.

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London & Liverpool Clothing Co., 86 and 88 Bowery, Cor. Hester St.

CITY OF KINGSTON SAFE. WORLD'S FAIR BUSINESS.

The Long Lost Steamer Arrives Unharmed at Barbadoes.

Important Work for the Legislative Committee Meeting.

Bills to Acquire Site Property to Be Drawn Up.

One of the most important meetings in connection with the World's Fair will be that of the Committee on Legislation, which will take place at Mr. Chauncey M. Depew's office to-morrow afternoon at 3.30 o'clock.

The several members of this Committee have been working industriously during the past week, and as a result the bills for the Legislature have been drawn up and are ready to be discussed.

The Secretary of the Finance Committee has prepared an alphabetical list of subscribers to the Guarantee Fund, which will also be presented at the meeting.

The list contains over 6,000 names, and it has been revealed that fully \$36,000 was received in sums of less than \$100.

The bills to be presented to the Legislature ask for an act to be passed, permitting the corporation created by an act of Congress to acquire, build, use and improve real estate for the purpose of an international exposition; one preventing seizure of articles and goods deposited on exhibition and one conferring the right upon the Exposition Company to acquire land by the exercise of the right of eminent domain.

The question of asking for an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to complete the two museums will also come up for additional discussion.

There is not a doubt but what Chauncey M. Depew and Elihu Root will be chosen to present the petition to the Senate Committee of the World's Fair on Jan. 1, and it is probable that ex-Secretary Whitney, John C. Calhoun, Thomas C. Platt, and possibly Mark H. Ransom, will be among the delegation that will go to Washington to look after New York's interests.

The Committee on Site and Buildings has prepared a new map of the land from which the World's Fair site is to be chosen. The table of acreage is as follows:

East end of Central Park, 66 acres; land north of Central Park, 51 acres; land west of Eighth avenue, exclusive of parks, 157 acres; Morris Park, 30 acres; Riverside Park, 89 acres. Total, 383 acres.

This practically winds up the work of the Site Committee, as they can do nothing more until Congress acts in the matter.

If the site is awarded to New York, the Committee can then go on with the work of making leases with property owners and to advertise for plans for the buildings.

The Guarantee Fund has received a new boom and hopes are entertained that the \$10,000,000 may not be far away.

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